

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Martin R. Geissler, Applicants' Attorney at 1.703.621.7140 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

**Date: September 29, 2006**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Geissler', is written over a horizontal line.

Martin R. Geissler, Reg. No. 51011

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